

Documenting Montanans at War

Archives Month, October 2011



Catalog # 953-644 • Company L - 163rd Montana Infantry Regiment, October 24, 1917. [Main Street] Helena, Montana. • Photograph by Edward Reinig.
Credit: Montana Historical Society Research Center Photograph Archives, Helena, MT

May 5, 1945
We are embarking on a 13 month tour of duty in the 3rd MAR. DIV. we will be going 2nd Battalion, 9th MARINE Regiment. We are suppose to go to Japan, Korea & the Phillipines, and operate out of Okinawa. Some fee we may end up in So. Viet-Nam. God only knows what lies ahead.

May 6, 1945
Left San Diego this morning at 8:00 A.M. wonder if we will all see San Diego as we come again. We are on the U.S.S. Breckinridge. The ship is real crowded as there are 1300 Marines as well as 1000 soldiers. Plus dependants.

May 7, 1945
Worked in a ship's cally for the first time. Also got sea sick for the first time in my life. What a lousy feeling. Hope I am better tomorrow.

May 8, 1945
Feeling better also have a slight headache.

Gerald Simpson Diary,
SC 1409, MHS Archives

Name: <u>John E. Moran</u>		Service No.: <u>100-100-100</u>	
Rank: <u>Private</u>		Branch: <u>Infantry</u>	
Place of Birth: <u>Helena, Montana</u>		Date of Birth: <u>Oct 10, 1891</u>	
Place of Residence: <u>Helena, Montana</u>		Date of Residence: <u>Oct 10, 1917</u>	
Grade, with date of appointment: <u>Pvt.</u>		Date of Appointment: <u>Oct 10, 1917</u>	
Enlistment: <u>Oct 10, 1917</u>		Discharge: <u>Oct 10, 1917</u>	
Service from: <u>Oct 10, 1917</u>		Service to: <u>Oct 10, 1917</u>	
Killed in action: <u>No</u>		Other wounds or injuries received in action: <u>No</u>	
Prisoner of war: <u>No</u>		Other remarks: <u>No</u>	
Remarks: <u>No</u>		Remarks: <u>No</u>	

NAME: <u>John E. Moran</u>	Service No.: <u>100-100-100</u>
Home Address: <u>Helena, Montana</u>	Branch: <u>Infantry</u>
Place of Birth: <u>Helena, Montana</u>	Date of Birth: <u>Oct 10, 1891</u>
Date of Entry into Service: <u>Oct 10, 1917</u>	Place of Residence: <u>Helena, Montana</u>
Date of Discharge: <u>Oct 10, 1917</u>	Grade, with date of appointment: <u>Pvt.</u>
Service from: <u>Oct 10, 1917</u>	Service to: <u>Oct 10, 1917</u>
Killed in action: <u>No</u>	Other wounds or injuries received in action: <u>No</u>
Prisoner of war: <u>No</u>	Other remarks: <u>No</u>
Remarks: <u>No</u>	Remarks: <u>No</u>

WWI & WWII Registration
Cards, RS 223, MHS Archives

State Pays Honor to Capt. Moran

The late Capt. John E. Moran, one of six Montanans to receive the nation's highest award for valor, will be honored at Helena April 21, according to Charles Regan, past commander of the Montana United Spanish War Veterans.

Arthur K. Serungard, who is in charge of the Montana historical library's veterans' division, advised Regan a photograph of Moran and a copy of the citation awarding him the congressional medal of honor will be presented to the library April 21.

This will be the 52d annual muster day and the 50th anniversary of the awarding of the medal to Moran. Moran served many terms as Cascade county clerk and recorder and Regan was associated with him in the office for years.

Serungard hopes photographs and citations of all Montana's six congressional medal of honor men may be placed in the historical library.

Last army day Gov. John W. Bonner was presented with photographs and citations of the four World War 2 medal of honor winners. These include Capt. W. W. Galt, Great Falls.

Efforts are being made to obtain a photograph of Cornelius S. Smith of Helena, who won the medal in 1891.

Moran won his medal with the 37th U. S. Infantry in the Philippines.

John E. Moran Papers,
SC 521, MHS Archives

Dear Son Mike. I offer my apologies for not writing sooner. but things have been in such a dither here it seems like I just couldn't find either time or words to write. the last month Violet's mother was in such a hell of a shape with arthritis that she was helpless so ma had to help her out till she died. she was buried the Friday before xmas. Dave got an emergency home and got home for a few days. he left yesterday at 2 PM to go back to Hamie. I have been as busy as a cat on a tin roof and rather nervous. so that is the excuse I give for not writing.

How did you spend the holidays in good spirits and health I sincerely hope. I had about 6 shots and 4 bottles of beer thru the holidays. Butte spent a very New Years eve. I went to bed at 10 PM my self and didn't hear even one scream or even the whistling. None of my friends showed up with black eyes or sore knuckles so you can see it was exceptionally quiet. There was a fresh skill of snow over the ice so that kept some of the people home.

Mike Holland Papers,
SC 2413, MHS Archives